

Message Text

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SUBJECT: GOC PROTESTS TURKISH VIOLATION OF CYPRUS AIRSPACE

REF: NICOSIA 1031

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF NOTE VERBALE RECEIVED FROM GOC MINISTRY
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PAGE 02 NICOSI 01032 190615Z

FONAFF APRIL 18: QUOTE. THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE
EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND HAS THE HONOUR
TO DRAW THE LATTER'S ATTENTION TO THE VERY SERIOUS DEVELOP-
MENT WHICH TOOK PLACE THIS MORNING.

TURKISH MILITARY AIRCRAFT HAVE VIOLATED CYPRUS

AIRSPACE WHILE THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IS ON HIS WAY TO CYPRUS TO HAVE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC CONCERNING THE OUTLINE OF THE TURKISH PROPOSALS HANDED IN THE FORM OF AN EXPLANATORY NOTE TO DR. WALDEHIM AT VIENNA.

ACCORDING TO U.N. SOURCES THESE VIOLATIONS INVOLVING TWO FIGHTER AIRCRAFT WHICH MADE SEVEN PASSES IN THE AREA WEST OF NICOSIA AT 9:00 HRS AND LATER AT 9:28 HRS NORTH OF YEROLAKKOS. THE PASSES WERE MADE AT AN ALTITUDE RANGING BETWEEN MAXIMUM TWO THOUSAND FEET AND MINIMUM 400 FEET.

ANOTHER ACTIVITY WAS A MILITARY HELICOPTER FLIGHT APPROXIMATELY ONE MILE WEST OF DHEKELIA.

THE VIOLATION BY TURKISH MILITARY AIRCRAFT OF THE AIRSPACE OF CYPRUS CONSTITUTES ANOTHER AGGRESSIVE ACTION AGAINST THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS.

THE ABOVE AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS COME AFTER A LONG ABSENCE OF SUCH TYPE OF VIOLATIONS AND RIGHT AFTER THE VERY ARROGANT AND PROVOCATIVE DECLARATIONS OF MR. ECEVIT TO THE EFFECT THAT 28,000 TURKISH TROOPS WILL CONTINUE TO REMAIN ON THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC AND THE THREATENING STATEMENT OF THE TURKISH
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PAGE 03 NICOSI 01032 190615Z

CONSTITUTIONAL ADVISER MR. SOYZAL THAT "REGRETTABLE INCIDENTS MAY HAPPEN IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE IF THE TURKISH PROPOSALS ARE NOT ACCEPTED AND INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS ARE NOT RESUMED."

THESE TURKISH MILITARY ACTIVITIES AT THIS VERY CRITICAL MOMENT ARE CONTRARY TO AND FLAGRANTLY VIOLATE THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS ON CYPRUS WHICH URGE UTMOST RESTRAINT AND CALL UPON THE PARTIES TO REFRAIN FROM ANY UNILATERAL OR OTHER ACTION LIKELY TO AFFECT ADVERSELY THE PROSPECTS OF NEGOTIATION FOR A JUST AND PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM.

THE TIME AND CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH THESE VIOLATIONS TAKE PLACE SHOW CLEARLY THAT TURKEY IS PURSUING GUNBOAT DIPLOMACY WITH THE AIM OF BLACKMAILING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC DURING THE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THEY ALSO CONSTITUTE LACK OF RESPECT FOR THE PERSON OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE. END QUOTE.

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